

MONTANA ECONOMY AT A GLANCE

February 2003

UNEMPLOYMENT BY COUNTY

Not seasonally adjusted

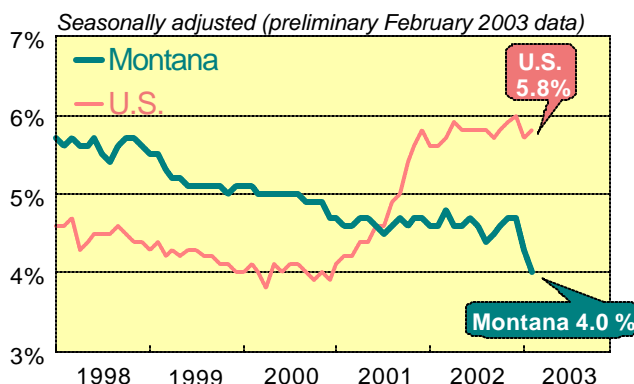
	Feb. 2002	Feb. 2003*
UNITED STATES	6.1%	6.4%
MONTANA	5.9%	5.2%
Cascade **	5.3%	4.7%
Missoula **	4.9%	4.4%
Yellowstone **	4.6%	3.9%
Beaverhead	4.6%	4.3%
Big Horn	18.1%	18.8%
Blaine	8.4%	6.2%
Broadwater	5.8%	5.8%
Carbon	6.5%	4.6%
Carter	2.3%	2.6%
Chouteau	3.8%	3.0%
Custer	4.7%	4.8%
Daniels	3.9%	2.7%
Dawson	3.4%	3.2%
Deer Lodge	7.2%	5.7%
Fallon	4.0%	2.8%
Fergus	6.8%	6.7%
Flathead	7.7%	6.5%
Gallatin	3.0%	3.0%
Garfield	4.2%	3.1%
Glacier	11.9%	12.4%
Golden Valley	8.3%	8.4%
Granite	8.5%	7.2%
Hill	4.2%	3.7%
Jefferson	6.0%	4.7%
Judith Basin	8.5%	5.4%
Lake	10.8%	8.4%
Lewis & Clark	5.2%	4.6%
Liberty	3.3%	3.7%
Lincoln	14.0%	16.9%
McCone	3.1%	4.3%
Madison	5.2%	5.6%
Meagher	8.0%	7.1%
Mineral	12.0%	10.2%
Musselshell	10.1%	7.4%
Park	5.7%	4.8%
Petroleum	4.5%	6.6%
Phillips	7.3%	6.1%
Pondera	5.7%	4.6%
Powder River	4.8%	5.2%
Powell	5.9%	6.2%
Prairie	7.5%	5.0%
Ravalli	6.8%	6.4%
Richland	6.9%	5.0%
Roosevelt	8.8%	7.0%
Rosebud	7.1%	6.6%
Sanders	12.7%	10.1%
Sheridan	5.6%	3.9%
Silver Bow	6.3%	5.4%
Stillwater	4.8%	3.1%
Sweet Grass	4.5%	2.7%
Teton	4.5%	4.4%
Toole	3.3%	2.4%
Treasure	7.3%	7.7%
Valley	5.4%	4.3%
Wheatland	6.8%	6.2%
Wibaux	6.3%	2.8%

*February 2003 rate preliminary

** Cascade=Great Falls MSA
Missoula= Missoula MSA
Yellowstone=Billings MSA

FEBRUARY 2003 HIGHLIGHTS

Unemployment



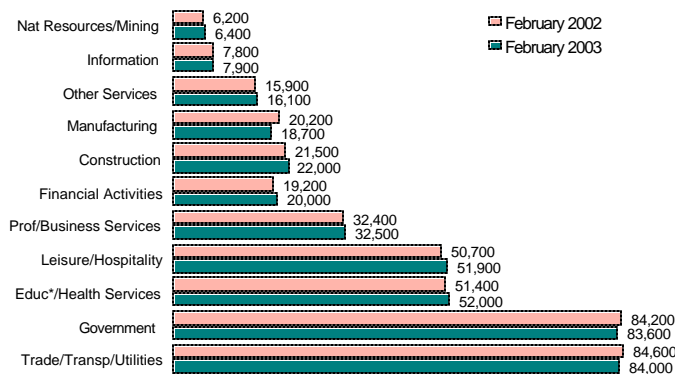
Montana's seasonally adjusted unemployment rate continues to be lower than the U.S. rate. The state's February unemployment of 4.0 percent was 1.8 percentage points lower than the nation's.

Earnings

Average weekly earnings for Montana's private sector production workers were up 4.8 percent over the year in February, outpacing the 3.0 percent over-the-year increase in U.S. inflation.

Nonag Payroll Employment

Montana Jobs (Seasonally Adjusted)



*Private educational services. (Public education is included in the government sector.)

Montana's seasonally-adjusted, nonagricultural payroll employment was up about 2,900 jobs (0.7 percentage points) over the year in February. The largest over-the-year gains were in leisure & hospitality, financial activities, and private educational & health services.

FROM THE 2000 CENSUS

MT RESERVATION POPULATION, 2000

Reservation*	Native American	Total
Blackfeet	8,507	10,100
Crow	5,165	6,894
Flathead	6,999	26,172
Fort Belknap	2,790	2,959
Fort Peck	6,391	10,321
N. Cheyenne	4,029	4,470
Rocky Boy	2,578	2,676

*Reservation & trust lands
Source: U.S. Census Bureau

For more information, visit the Montana Census and Economic Information Center website at <http://ceic.commerce.state.mt.us>.

ONLINE AT

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MONTANA'S LARGEST OCCUPATIONS

Montana Occupations with the Most Annual Job Openings Due to Industry Growth AND Worker Replacements 2000 - 2010 Job Projections (Include Self-Employed)

Occupation	Average Annual Openings*	Occupation	Average Annual Openings*
Retail Salespersons	933	Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	174
Cashiers	627	Stock Clerks & Order Fillers	172
Waiters & Waitresses	533	Managers, All Other	168
Child Care Workers	443	Receptionists & Information Clerks	157
General & Operations Managers	441	Customer Service Representatives	156
First-Line Supervisors/Managers of Retail Sales Workers	410	Truck Drivers, Light or Delivery Services	156
Carpenters	404	Hairdressers, Hairstylists & Cosmetologists	150
Combined Food Preparation & Serving Workers, Inc Fast Food	364	Personal & Home Care Aides	150
Truck Drivers, Heavy & Tractor-Trailer	347	Executive Secretaries & Administrative Assistants	142
Registered Nurses	322	Hotel, Motel & Resort Desk Clerks	140
Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	317	Secretaries, Except Legal, Medical & Executive	140
Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners	316	Counter & Rental Clerks	137
Bookkeeping, Accounting & Auditing Clerks	310	Construction Laborers	136
Office Clerks, General	289	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	134
Bartenders	269	Home Health Aides	125
Farmers & Ranchers	257	Real Estate Brokers	124
First-Line Sprvrs/Mngrs Construct Trades & Extract Wrks	255	Computer Support Specialists	122
Counter Attendants, Cafeteria/Food Concession/Coffee Shop	224	Accountants & Auditors	121
Sales Reps, Wholesale & Manufact, Exc Tech & Sci Products	222	Painters, Construction & Maintenance	115
Laborers & Freight, Stock & Material Movers, Hand	209	Secondary School Teachers, Exc Special & Voc Education	113
Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics	201	Cleaners of Vehicles & Equipment	110
Cooks, Restaurant	198	Cooks, Fast Food	108
Teacher Assistants	187	Food Service Managers	105
Food Preparation Workers	178	First-Line Sprvrs/Mngrs of Office & Admin Support Workers	102
Nursing Aides, Orderlies & Attendants	176	Licensed Practical & Licensed Vocational Nurses	102

*Numbers may not add due to rounding.

Source: Research & Analysis Bureau, Montana Department of Labor and Industry

- The Research and Analysis Bureau develops occupational job projections to help people anticipate which occupations are likely to produce jobs in the future. Projections were made to the year 2010 based on data from 2000 and previous years. Some job openings will be generated by industry growth. The rest will result from replacing workers who leave existing jobs for various reasons.
- More detailed projections for over 700 occupations—with wage and training information—will be available on the bureau's website in May.